

CLAIM ADMENDMENTS:

1. (currently amended) A binding for a snowboard comprising:  
a base plate;  
a boot fixing band including a belt portion and a pad portion, the belt portion being mounted on one side of the base plate with one end thereof;  
a hardness adjusting plate mounted on the boot fixing band;  
a buckle connected to the hardness adjusting plate on ~~the other~~ another end ~~side~~ of the boot fixing band; and  
a belt having one end mounted on ~~the other~~ another side of the base plate ~~[[,]]~~ and ~~the other~~ another end engaged with the buckle.

2. (original) A binding for a snowboard as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the hardness adjusting plate is removably mounted on the boot fixing band.

3. (original) A binding for a snowboard as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the hardness adjusting plate is fixed on the boot fixing band.

4. (currently amended) A binding for a snowboard as set forth in Claim 2, wherein the hardness adjusting plate includes a cut-away groove in ~~the~~ a central portion thereof so as to extend in ~~the~~ a longitudinal direction thereof.

5. (currently amended) A binding for a snowboard as set forth in Claim 3, wherein the hardness adjusting plate includes a cut-away groove in ~~the~~ a central portion thereof so as to extend in ~~the~~ a longitudinal direction thereof.

6. (original) A binding for a snowboard as set forth in Claim 4 further comprising:

an auxiliary elastic plate removably mounted in the cut-away groove.

7. (original) A binding for a snowboard as set forth in Claim 5 further comprising:

an auxiliary elastic plate removably mounted in the cut-away groove.

8. (original) A binding for a snowboard as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the belt portion is adjustable in length.

9. (currently amended) A binding for a snowboard comprising:

a base plate;

a boot fixing band;

a hardness adjusting plate fixed on the boot fixing band;

a belt interposed between one end of the hardness adjusting plate and one side of the base plate, one end of the boot fixing band being free from the belt;

a buckle connected to the hardness adjusting plate on ~~the other~~ another end ~~side~~ of the boot fixing band, ~~the other end side of the boot fixing band being free from the belt;~~ and

another belt having one end mounted on ~~the other~~ another side of the base plate, and ~~the other~~ another end engaged with the buckle.

10. (original)      A binding for a snowboard as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the hardness adjusting plate is a band-shaped elastic plate.

11. (original)      A binding for a snowboard as set forth in Claim 9, wherein the hardness adjusting plate is a band-shaped elastic plate.

12. (currently amended)      A binding for a snowboard as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the hardness adjusting plate mounted on the boot fixing band comprises is selected from a plurality of members hardness adjusting plates being different from each other in hardness.

13. (currently amended)      A binding for a snowboard as set forth in Claim 9, wherein the hardness adjusting plate mounted on the boot fixing band ~~comprises~~ is selected from a plurality of ~~members~~ hardness adjusting plates being different from each other in hardness.

14. (new)      A binding for a snowboard as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a screw and a nut, wherein the screw penetrates the pad portion and the hardness adjusting plate.

15. (new)      A binding for a snowboard as set forth in claim 9, further comprising a screw and a nut, wherein the screw penetrates the pad portion and the hardness adjusting plate.

16. (new)      A binding for a snowboard comprising:

- a base plate;
- a boot fixing band including a belt portion and a pad portion, the belt portion being mounted on one side of the base plate with one end thereof;
- a hardness adjusting plate mounted on the boot fixing band, the hardness adjusting plate including a cut-away groove in a central portion thereof so as to extend in a longitudinal direction thereof;
- an auxiliary elastic plate removably mounted in the cut-away groove;

a buckle connected to the hardness adjusting plate on another end of the boot fixing band; and

a belt having one end mounted on another side of the base plate and another end engaged with the buckle.